

## **Criteria used for reviewing Challenge Cost Share Projects applications**

Project proposals are evaluated based on their capacity to further the mission and goals of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. These goals include: preserve cultural and natural resources, interpret the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to the public, and enhance recreational opportunities.

Proposals are evaluated based on how well they accomplish following criteria. The first four criteria are weighted more heavily than the others.

1. Preservation (Lasting legacy) - Enhance protection or preservation of a Lewis and Clark historic site and/or cultural or natural resource associated with the Trail.
2. Interpretive value - Increase public understanding and appreciation of the Lewis and Clark NHT through interpretation and/or public information.
3. Educational Value - Increase public understanding and appreciation of the Lewis and Clark NHT through education and interpretation information in support of a learning opportunity.
4. Public impact - Projects that are national in scope and will affect large segments of the public will receive a higher rating than projects with limited public impact.
5. American Indian involvement - Does the project include American Indian involvement through project consultation, development, and implementation?
6. Provide appropriate historical archeological or other research involving preservation of cultural or natural resources associated with the Lewis and Clark story.
7. Product - Does the project produce a verifiable product, e.g. a planning document, a report, a research document, or a more tangible interpretive or educational product?
8. Enhance public recreational opportunities for those traveling the Lewis and Clark NHT.
9. Planning value - Provide necessary planning and coordination with partnership organizations to accomplish Lewis and Clark NHT objectives.
10. Infrastructure – Is the project related to construction of major infrastructure that will produce a long term benefit to the Lewis and Clark NHT?
11. Organizational viability - Does the organization have the capacity and resources, including matching dollars or in-kind service, to accomplish the project in a timely manner (within a two year time frame)?
12. Unique project – Are other organizations doing this kind of proposal? How is this project important and unique?